

## Win, Lose, or Draw

By FRANCIS E. STANN

### What Sports Will You Have Today?

**BASEBALL**—With the trade of Pitcher Ed Lopat of the White Sox to the Yankees for Aaron Robinson probably went Clark Griffith's best chance to open the season with a top-grade catcher. The Yankees tried in vain to land a pitcher from Washington in exchange for Robinson, but in Lopat they have a fellow very likely to fill their need. And the White Sox undoubtedly acquired Robinson with every intention of keeping the big fellow who hits a long ball.

Meanwhile, the Nats' catching is at its lowest ebb. Probably never in modern times have the Griffins' backstop corps been so weak as now, with only Al Evans equipped to catch a passable major league game. And Evans, with his .241 batting average, isn't going to break up many gamblers. Back of Evans the Nats have Ken McCreight, a collegian who played 27 games for Charlotte last year, batting .250, and Len Okie, who hit .314 for Fayetteville and .208 for Des Moines.

The best Washington catcher of 1947 still is on hand, but it's hardly likely he'll consent to return to action. He's Rick Ferrell, now well past 40 and happy with his lot as a pitching coach.

### For the Caps the Time Is Now

**BASKET BALL**—This is do-or-die week, plus next Sunday, for the town's midwinter favorites, the Caps. If ever a title contender had the cards stacked against them, it's Coach Red Auerbach's magicians who hold forth at Uline Arena.

They are shooting for the Western division lead in the Basketball Association of America tonight, entertaining the Chicago Stags. Tomorrow they'll play the Baltimore Bullets away, jump a train for St. Louis, play the Bombers Friday night, jump another train and play the Stags again in Chicago on Sunday afternoon.

If the Caps beat the Stags tonight they'll move into the lead by half a game over the Bombers. If they lose, the Stags will tie the Bombers for the lead and the Caps will drop to third place. That's the kind of a rat race it is.

Even with Bones McKinney on a sprained ankle, reducing the Caps' squad to eight hale-and hearty heroes, Capt. Bob Feerick isn't worried, swears Publicist Joe Holman.

"Feerick came into the office the other day to check the division of spoils," reports Holman, solemnly. "Somebody said, 'It'll amount to \$2,000 per man if you win the title. Second place, . . ."

"Never mind," interrupted Feerick. "I've learned all I want to know."

### Crisler Could Cash In on Snavey Decision

**FOOTBALL**—Carl Snavey's decision to remain at the University of Carolina in preference to a high-salaried job as coach of the Los Angeles Rams could be interpreted as a kick in the teeth for the All-America Conference. Probably was the rival National Football League.

The latter circuit added prestige by luring Bo McMillin from Indiana to the Detroit Lions. That was a feather in the National League's cap, but the All-America Conference felt it could match McMillin with Snavey and there was every indication that Snavey was sorely tempted and wavering.

Now they're wooing Frits Crisler of Michigan with the announcement that they're willing to let him "write his own ticket." An unidentified spokesman indicated the offer would be more than \$50,000 a year and if that's so Crisler's luck is running good. It's altogether possible this is nearly twice what Snavey was offered by a pro team with hurt feelings and ambitions to not only match but top the National League's latest acquisition.

### Hursey Not Good Enough for Good Pugs

**BOXING**—We said it before and say it again—Smuggly Hursey is a club fighter who has no business in the ring with third, fourth and fifth ranking middleweights.

Tommy Bell proved that Hursey was out of his class last September when he gave him a boxing lesson at Griffith Stadium. The other night at Uline Arena Sonny Horne proved it all over again.

Hursey is willing and crowd pleasing, but he lacks the ability to cope with boxers who punch fast and move fast. If Smuggly's handlers were smart they'd keep their bread-winning away from the ranking pugs and settle for top spots on local club fight cards.

Washington's local "headliners" of recent years haven't been lasting very long. Aaron Perry flashed and died out in a couple of years. Bee Bee Washington didn't even last that long and Herbie (Bluff) Jones' career as a main-bouter was even shorter-lived. Reason: They all found themselves overmatched either too soon, or too often, or both.

## Big Paydays Are Nicest Thing About His Tour, Says Kramer

By the Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 25.**—One of the nicest things about being a professional tennis player is the bundle of that long green stuff. Take it from Jack Kramer, until December America's No. 1 tennis amateur, "it sure is nice to have all this dough rolling in."

Kramer paired off against Bobby Riggs here last night in the 36th battle of their cross-country tour that began in Madison Square Garden December 26. He won his eighth match out of the last 10.

In these two months of professional performance, Kramer said in an interview, he has learned a lot and had a lot of fun. But the miraculous pay days for sheer pleasure.

The worst part of the whole thing, he said, is being separated from his family. "My wife plans to join me occasionally for short periods, but our boy only is 15 months old and we're moving just too fast for him," he said.

Kramer now leads Riggs, 21 matches to 15, in the tour. "This record, he noted, 'is just about the opposite from what every one figured at the beginning.'"

The reason for his lead? "Well," he said, "I guess I've just been pretty lucky."

"Then we're playing more the type of tennis I've been used to than we did at the start, and

### St. Alban's Quint Remains In Title Race by Victory

St. Alban's remains a contender for the Interstate Academic Conference basketball title after romping to a 61-33 triumph over Boys' Latin yesterday. It was the fourth win in five starts for the Saints. Roger Kingsbury tossed in 27 points and Bob Foley 22 for the winners.

In another private school game, Priory came from behind to down St. John De Matha, 30-19. De Matha led at the half, 16-13.

In nearby Maryland, Sherwood topped the National Training School, 31-20, in two overtime periods. Warren Derrick's goal in the last 10 seconds decided the game.

### Mellon Horse Unquoted In Grand National Odds

**LONDON, Feb. 25.**—Paul Mellon's American challenger for the Grand National, Caddie II, was not quoted in the betting at the first callover on the race last night.

Favorite for the 4 miles and 856 yards steeplechase classic was Richmond, a British entry, at 100 to 1. The Grand National is scheduled to be run at Aintree on March 20.

# Hockey Head Admits Basis for Betting Inquiry

## Campbell, in Detroit, Finds Circumstantial Evidence of Tieup

By the Associated Press

**DETROIT, Feb. 25.**—President Clarence Campbell of the National Hockey League, here to investigate reports of player betting, said today he had found "strong circumstantial evidence of a player-gambler tieup."

He added, however, that there was "no hint of a fix of any league game."

Campbell made the statement to reporters after an hour's conference with Detroit Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy, who previously associated two unidentified players in reported wagers through an ex-convict.

**Confers Immediately.** The NHL president went into immediate conference with Toy on his arrival this morning from Montreal for his investigation.

Earlier Campbell called reports of a possible betting scandal in professional hockey "ridiculous." At the same time he promised a full inquiry. Toy, in his statement yesterday, did not name the rinksman involved, but said one was a member of the Boston Bruins and the other played with the New York Rangers.

He said there were reports of supposed telephone talks regarding bets on league games between the players and James Tamer, 36-year-old convicted bank robber who recently was returned to prison as a parole violator. Tamer is suspected of heading a Detroit gambling ring.

**League Rules Adequate.** The commissioner said yesterday his information "does not sustain any criminal case" and was not of "sufficient strength to base an accusation."

"I don't care whether it is legal evidence or not if it establishes the facts to my satisfaction," Campbell said in New York yesterday, on his way here.

"If anything contrary to NHL regulations has transpired, the league's rules are adequate to deal with the situation."

Campbell stopped in Toronto last night to confer with Art Ross, general manager and coach of the Bruins.

"We don't believe a word of it," asserted Ross, who said he had in-

terviewed all his players. He de-

manded that Toy name those in-

volved.

"They have denied the charges

100 per cent," he added. "I believe every one of the boys."

**Players Deny Reports.**

In New York Manager Frank

Boucher of the Rangers called the

report "fantastic" and said he had

questioned his players individually

with all of them denying knowledge

of any betting activities.

Manager Jack Adams of the De-

troit Red Wings, none of whose

players was involved, told Toy he

would insist on a "full report" of

the incident.

Toy said the hockey angle "is very

incidental to our whole investiga-

tion of Tamer and his associates,

which has been going on for some

time."

**Big Crowd Grets Louis**

**On His Arrival in London**

By the Associated Press

**LONDON, Feb. 25.**—Joe Louis

arrived in London today and ambled

through the biggest crowd of back-

slapping boxing fans ever assembled

at Waterloo Station.

The heavyweight champion will

give training and sparring exhibi-

tions at Earl's Court. He brought

along 300 steaks.

Marva Louis, his wife; Manny

Seamon, trainer; Marshall Miles,

manager, and Irwin Rose, tour

manager, were along. They estab-

lished quarters in a big apartment

in an old-fashioned house on Park

lane, one of London's most fash-

ionable streets.

**Levin and Lee to Head**

**Rassle Show Tonight**

Dave Levin, who whipped the

Super Swedish Angel in his last

appearance here, again will headline

the rassle show at Turner's Arena

tonight when he takes on Don Lee,

the towering Texan, in a one-hour

time limit bout.

Billy Darnell will face George

Bolas in the semiwindup. Marver

Mercer and Benito Gardini will team

up against Mike Kollins and Pat

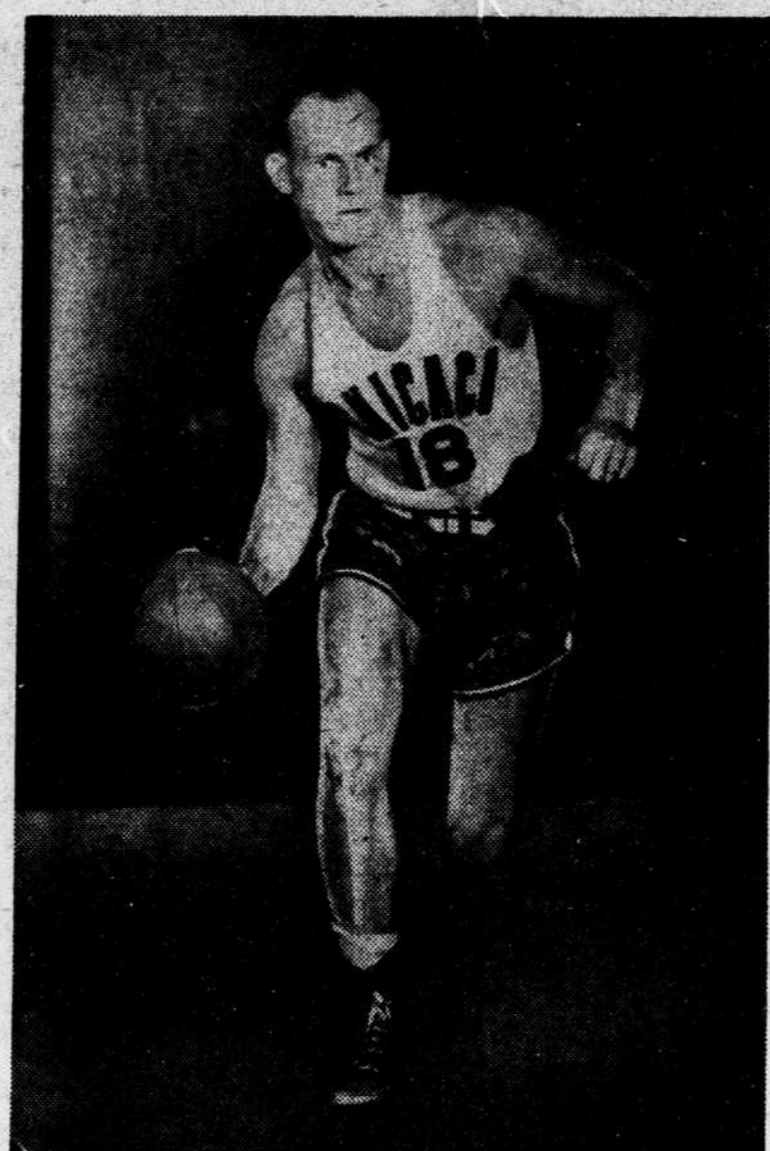
Welsh in a two-man team match.

While Lou Farino will oppose San-

dor Kovacs in the opener at 8:45.

**Boxer Floored 14 Times**

**LONDON, Feb. 25.**—The referee



**STAGS' STRONG BOY**—Big Jim Seminoff, 6-foot-2-inch, 200-pound strong man of the Chicago Stags, who faces the Washington Capitals at Uline Arena tonight. Seminoff is a graduate of the University of Southern California and made the All-Pacific Coast team while being honorably mentioned for all-America in 1943.

## Crippled Caps to Oppose Stags Tonight in First-Place Battle

By Bill Fuchs

With only five games left at home and six on the road, Washington's crippled Capitals will be forced to exert all their energy to stay in first place in the Western Division of the Basketball Association. Leading off with the powerful Chicago Stags tonight at Uline Arena at 8:45, Coach Red Auerbach's boys, now deadlocked with the St. Louis Bombers for the lead, will wind up their 48-game schedule against the toughest clubs in the association.

The Caps will go on a two-week road trip which will take them to Baltimore tomorrow night, St. Louis Saturday, Chicago Sunday and New York the following Saturday. If Washington still is in first place when they return here against those same Stags, March 10, they can start counting on the \$200 share awarded to each player on the champion team of each division.

But that's a long way off. In this busy race which might find the Caps in third place tomorrow and the Stags and Bombers tied for first, the Caps again will be operating tonight without the services of Bones McKinney. McKinney tried out his injured ankle yesterday at American University, but he just isn't ready yet.

"Besides," Coach Auerbach said, "Irv Torgoff has a badly sprained hand and Big John Mahnkent hurt his back. But they'll be in there against the Stags."

"One thing in our favor," Auerbach added optimistically, "every one's playing good ball. The boys really want to win the title."

There's a \$50,000 jackpot waiting to be split up by the teams in the playoffs. Only the last-place teams will be cut out. The champions of the two divisions will open a four-out-of-seven series for the right to meet the finalist of the playoffs involving the second and third place clubs for the association title.

The Stags will bear a lot of watching tonight. Max (The Touch) Zaslawsky, the 22-year-old scoring sensation, has been dropping baskets in at the rate of 19.3 points per contest and ranks third only to Philadelphia's Joe Fuiks and Boston's Ed Sadowski in the league scoring race with 658 points.

With McKinney out Torgoff will get the assignment against Chuck Howard Quint in final.

Howard University's basketball team, 74-40 victor over St. Paul's College of Lawrenceville, Va., last night at Turner's Arena, will make its final home appearance of the season tomorrow night against A. C. College at Turner's at 8 o'clock.

By virtue of their victory last night the Bisons have a CIAA record of 12 wins in 15 games and an overall record of 17 victories and five losses.

Walter Wright, Butch Burroughs and Leon Smith all shared scoring honors last night with nine points each. Howard used 16 players in handling St. Paul's its eighth defeat in 11 games.

**Marine Team Winner** Frank Gentry dropped in 26 points to lead the Headquarters Marine basketball team to a 65-50 victory over Army Transport command last night on the Marines' court.

**Six-Day Bike Racing to Return To N. Y. After 9-Year Lapse**

By the Associated Press

**NEW YORK, Feb. 25.**—Six-day bike racing, a faded memory of prewar days, is making a comeback. When the riders start whirling around the wooden saucer Sunday night, the first New York marathon since 1939 will be under way.

Back in the glory days the pedal pushers packed them in. Madison Square Garden wasn't large enough for the big nights. Now the Garden can't bother to find room on its crowded schedule. The bikes have been shunted up to an armory at One Hundred and Sixty-eight street. Chicago and Cleveland tried to revive the grand with moderate success last year. But the New York promotion is strictly a gamble.

Francis Albertanti, who is handling publicity for the money men, says the "nut" is \$50,000. They used to take in as much as \$300,000 in the old days at the Garden. You imagine they will

be happy to settle for an even break in this revival.

In a crowded hotel suite near the Garden, some of the riders were talking about the "good old days." Jim Walthour, now rugged and firmly packed, but once a star rider, had the floor.

"Remember Paris," he said to Torchy Peden, another oldtimer, "the track wasn't so good in spots. You had to ride way up high on one side and down along the bottom on the other. Just like an egg. Then the snow used to come through some holes in the roof. You'd try to steer around the wet spots."

"And how about Stockholm?" Peden asked.

"That's where they used to bet on the races, just like the horses," Walthour said. "If any rider ever got caught doing any funny business, boom, he's out for life."

"They used to have those six-hour and eight-hour races. Tougher than the six-day. They'd get out there and zip every minute. When it was over you'd really be done."

## Only One of Quintets In Star Event Bows Since Selection

By George Huber

It's evident that a classy brand of basket ball will be on display all next week in The Evening Star's Metropolitan basketball tournament. For the last two weeks, or ever since selection of teams for the tourney began to be announced, only one of the entrants has lost a game. And that happened when two of the tourney teams—St. John's and Gonzaga—played each other last Sunday.

This big schoolboy event, co-sponsored by the District Interhigh Athletic Association, opens next Tuesday night at the University of Maryland's Ritchie Coliseum. Playing will be eight representative high school teams from Washington and nearby suburban areas.

**St. John's Wins No. 15.**

All of the five teams already selected continued their winning ways without trouble yesterday, several of

them continuing winning strings that extend farther back than two weeks. Fanliest string is owned by St. John's, the No. 1 seeded team, which won 18 in a row.

Swamping Woodward School, 82-40. With Jack George, the Johnny ace, hitting for 31 points, the winners ran up a 22-6 lead in the first period and coasted home.

George, Washington High clinched the Northern Virginia title with its fifth straight win in that loop while swamping Fairfax, 85-35. The leading scorer, Bobby Rorer, also hit for 31 points as the Presidents racked up their 14th win in 17 outings.

Other Star tourney entrants winning yesterday were Gonzaga, Blair and Washington-Lea. Gonzaga ran its season string to 16 wins against five losses by sinking Blair, 59-37. It averaged an earlier win by Blair.

Scoring was spread through the Eagles, which won with 19 points by showing the Caps with 19 points.

Bethesda overpowered last year's Metropolitan tourney winner, Coolidge, 49-28. The Colts, with a green outfit, are not contenders this year, but one of their players, Byron Anderson, took individual honors yesterday with 24 points. That was the eighth straight win for the Barons and gave them an overall record of 16 wins against 5 losses.

**W-L Defeats Devitt.** Washington-Lea had the closest call of any tournament entrant yesterday, but was ahead all the way while defeating a tough Devitt team, 35-28. Zeke Zimmerman and Van Duley showed the way with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Another game that may have a bearing on the tournament was Maryland Park's 42-33 win over Mount Rainier. Maryland Park is leading the Class A schools in Prince Georges County and Mount Rainier already has locked up the B title.

Just what team will enter The Star tourney from that county won't be decided until Saturday.

Opening game next Tuesday night at Ritchie Coliseum sends St. John's against Washington-Lea, followed by Bethesda against the runner-up in the District public high title tourney, which winds up Saturday. Wednesday night first-round games in The Star tourney are George Washington High against the Prince Georges team, followed by Gonzaga against the District winner.

**Doubles Play Slated In Handball Tourney**

Eight doubles matches are scheduled tonight to open that section of the District AAU handball championship tournament. Play starts at 7:30 o'clock at the YMCA courts.

Singles play opened last night with all favorites advancing. Winners were Sam Papandrew, W. G. Baiser, G. Goldstein, Al Houn, J. P. Rumin, George Minialin, John Mounir and R. Lundgren, the latter by default. Second-round singles play is scheduled tomorrow night.

**College Basket Ball** LOCAL Western Maryland, 40; C. U. 35.

Penn. 64; Harvard, 54. Conn. 62; New Hampshire, 47. Boston College, 41; Providence, 41. Fairmont (W. Va.), 55; Davis-Ellins, Bates, 50; Bowdoin, 48.

Wash. State, 48; East Tennessee State, 52. Holy Cross, 62; Chicago Loyola, 49. Moravian, 83; Penn. Military, 78 (overl.).

**SOUTH.** Duke, 49; Wake Forest, 48. W. Kentucky, 54; V. M. I., 32. Kentucky, 58; Temple, 38. Tulane, 48; Wake Forest, 48. The High Point, 76; Lenoir-Rhyne, 75.

Kelowna, 72. Bridgewater (Va.), 35; Lynchburg, 34. North Carolina, 41; Davidson, 46.

**MIDWEST.** Augustana (Ill.), 65; Carthage, 52. St. Ignace, 52; St. Joseph, 48. Nebraska Central, 71; Luther, 55. St. Louis, 48; St. Mary's, 48.

Monmouth, 45; Knox, 39. Illinois Wesleyan, 64; Okla. City, 47. Belmont, 69; Western, 61. Oklahoma, 57; Oklahoma A&M, 58. Western Michigan, 58; Valparaiso, 57. Cincinnati, 70; Miami (Ohio), 65.

Michigan State, 54; Notre Dame, 50. Muskegon, 78; Oberlin, 40. Xavier (Cincinnati), 57; Dayton, 32. Wooster, 50; Otterbein, 49.

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST.** Texas Tech., 46; West Texas, 38.

**PAC. WEST.** Idaho, 43; Washington, 41. Pepperdine, 66; San Diego State, 64. San Francisco, 50; San Jose State, 32. Lewis and Clark, 70; Linde, 67.

Puget Sound, 77; British Columbia, 64. Gonzaga, 44; Whitman, 23.



ED LOPAT.  
—AP Wirephoto.

## Yanks, High on Lopat, Believe Mound Staff Is Second to None

By the Associated Press

**NEW YORK, Feb. 25.**—The New York Yankees head south this week confident the acquisition of Southpaw Ed Lopat gives them a pitching staff second to none in the American League.

The 29-year-old Lopat, who came to the Yankees from Chicago yesterday in a trade which sent Catcher Aaron Robinson and Rookie Fliers Bill Wright and Fred Bradley to the White Sox, gives the World Champions the balance they have been seeking all winter, in the opinion of General Manager George Weiss.

"Lopat is the man we have been trying to get all winter," Weiss declared. "I believe he was the second best pitcher in the American League last year. Only Bob Feller of the Cleveland Indians was better."

**Other Lefties Have Failed.** Not since the days of Lefty Gomez and Marv Pappas have the Yankees had a dependable starting southpaw. Such lefties as Herb Karpel, Tommy Byrne, Joe Page and Wight have been groomed for starting berths, but all failed. Page, after disappearing as a starter, developed into one of the best relief pitchers in the game last year.

Lopat's record the last two seasons with the second division White Sox stamps him as a worthy successor to Gomez. He won 29 and lost 26 over the span, finishing with 14 earned runs in '46 and third last year.

"Just look over our pitching staff," enthused Arthur (Red) Patterson, the Yankees' efficient secretary. "It is headed by Allie Reardon, a 19-game winner last year. Then come Frank (Spec) Shea, who won 14 games for us in his freshman season, despite an injury which laid him off for six weeks."

**Others on Yankee Staff.** "In back of them come Lopat, Spud Chandler, top man in the circuit in earned runs last season. Floyd Bivens of World Series one-hit fame; Red Embree, acquired from the Indians during the winter; Vic Raschi, and of course Joe Page. We have such outstanding youngsters as Frank Hiller, Tommy Byrne, Don Johnson, Karl Drews and Dick Starr."

Weiss thinks Lopat and Embree will be of greater help to the Yankees than Jack Kramer and Ellis Kinder will be to the Boston Red Sox. Kramer and Kinder are the righthanders the Red Sox bought from the St. Louis Browns at a high price.

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